

The Egyptian Gazette

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No. 7,506

ALEXANDRIA, WEDNESDAY, MAY 30, 1906.

[EIGHT PAGES P.T. 1.

Inclusive Terms 10/- per Day.

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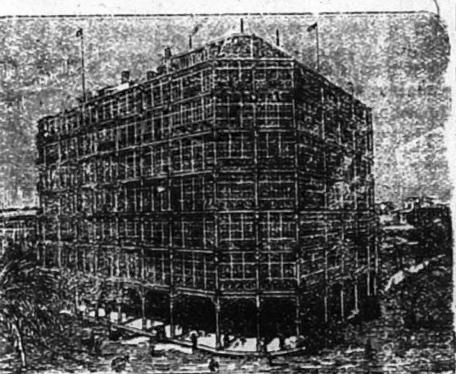
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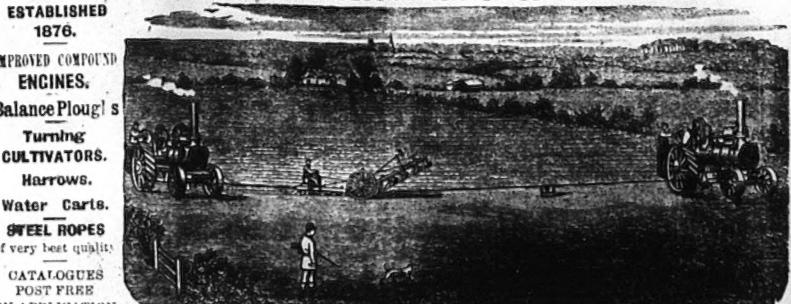
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The Egyptian Gazette

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THE "EGYPTIAN GAZETTE" IS PRINTED ON PAPER MANUFACTURED AND SUPPLIED BY THE LONDON PAPER MILLS CO., LIMITED (SALES OFFICE: 27, CANNON STREET, E.C.)

The Egyptian Gazette

The English Daily Newspaper, Established 1880.

Editor and Manager R. SHELLING

Price: ONE PIASTRE TARIFF.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 30, 1906.

PILLARS OF ALEXANDRIA.

Sheikh Mohamed Ahmed, in his very sensible and forcible address at the laying of the foundation stone of the new Victoria College on Friday last, described the result of instruction and education suited to the wants of a people as a blessing to its country; producing men who will, surely, in after days, prove pillars to the State. Among the local notabilities present on this occasion, was the new Vice-President of the Alexandria Municipality, a worthy successor to one who, during the past ten years, by his judicious and skilful piloting of the Municipal ship amongst the cosmopolitan rocks and shoals which beset it, proved himself to be such a pillar as the learned sheikh has spoken of. As regards his successor, those Alexandrians who remember the Government Hospital as it was twenty five years ago, before he took it in hand, can bear witness to its gradual transformation from an Augean Stable to the model of good order and cleanliness it has become. Its author has every reason to be proud of this result as the work of his own head and hands during more than twenty years of patient and continuous struggle with difficulties under which many a modern Hercules of less resolution, strong initiative, and organizing capacity would have succumbed. In the early days of its transformation, the hospital, during past years, had acquired so evil a reputation for neglect—not to say positive ill-treatment—of its patients, that it had become a matter of daily notoriety for an Egyptian Government employee, assured of death as the result of improper treatment, when sick or wounded, in his own insanitary house, to choose, unhesitatingly, that certainty in preference to being sent to hospital. In fact, this institution was as much dreaded by the sick or maimed Egyptian as servile in the Sudan was by the Egyptian soldier. A few years of the new régime suffice to remove entirely this prejudice, and the hospital became as popular as it had, previously, been a terror. The wards were increased and separated according to medical or surgical requirements, and comfortably furnished with an ample supply of filtered water and trained, native nurses; whilst a recreation ground for the patients was created and planted with trees, shrubs, and flowering plants, with suitable walks; some remnants of columns and other fragments of the ruins of the ancient

city being added as appropriate attributes to the supposed site of the Ptolemaic theatre. All the above was effected by the "ex-médecin-en-chef," at the smallest possible expense, during the long period of rigid economy which followed the Liquidation of 1880; the necessary funds being, literally, scraped together, partly by means of a carefully administered though scanty Budget, and partly from pecuniary assistance rendered by observing and admiring friends. In 1887, in token of his appreciation of the new Egyptian régime, and of the encouragement he had received from its distinguished inaugurator in Cairo in the prosecution of his improvements, he erected an ancient Greek column on the summit of a conspicuous elevation within the hospital grounds, with a suitable inscription, dedicating it as a memorial of his late Most Gracious Majesty, the "good" Queen Victoria, our first British Empress, having just completed the fiftieth year of her prosperous reign. In 1897, the year of her Majesty's Diamond Jubilee, the energetic and sympathetic Doctor Bay proceeded to erect the fine column which forms the central ornament of the Municipal Gardens adorning the north side of the avenue leading past the Greek Hospital to the Rosetta Gate, now in course of completion. The shaft of this column, alone, weighed twenty-five tons, and the doctor was compelled to have recourse to the Port authorities to aid him in raising so ponderous a pillar, the site of which had been selected with special reference to the permanent stability of its foundations, which are those of the wall of the ancient Bruchis. The column was inaugurated, in the following year, 1898, in memory of the reconquest of the Sudan and capture of Khartoum on 2nd September by the Anglo-Egyptian forces under Kitchener Pacha.

Not long ago the doctor transferred to his domain two sculptured block-granite early Christian columns of much interest which had, for many years, lain in the Arsenal at the disposal of the proprietor, unremoved in consequence of the accumulated storage dues for which he had become liable. They stand on either side of a large sarcophagus which the inmates of the hospital believe is intended to awe refractory patients into obedience, as typical of the one in Prince Ibrahim's garden on the island of Randa, which, sixty or seventy years ago, was employed for the temporary incarceration of contumacious vice-regal gardeners. The Scotch head-gardener of those days assured the late Lord Lindsay that three days in the sarcophagus, with the lid on, had "a wonderful effect." Citizens, however, who enjoy the confidence of the doctor, and are aware of his merciful disposition, assure us that he looks forward to a time, which we trust may yet be far distant, when the great sarcophagus is to become the repository of his own ashes.

The association of so many pillars with the useful work in behalf of the city of this indefatigable functionary, as well as a general recognition that he is, from the Sheikh's point of view, a veritable pillar himself of the State, has caused him to be locally known as Colonna Pacha. It is now many years since we visited the ruins of the ancient fifth-century monastery of Qila'at Sem'a, half way between Antioch and Aleppo, and about thirty miles distant from each, in the midst of which lie the remains of the famous column on which the Pillar Saint, Symeon Sylites, immortalised by Pauson, spent the last thirty-seven years of his life until his decease in 460 A.D., at the age of 72. He is said to have gradually increased the elevation of his pillar from six to forty cubits (nearly the height of Pompey's Pillar), from the summit of which he harangued and preached to the faithful with what must have been aatorian voice. His contemporary biographer, Theodore, explains the object of Symeon in thus elevating himself on a pillar, as being to escape from the too flattering and obsequious honour paid him by his earthly worshippers, as well as to end his days with as near an approach to heaven as he could realise. Such modesty, combined with continuous aspiration for improvement, is prototypical of our medico-municipal pillar. But, as regards the canonisation of Symeon in recognition of his act of devotion in seating himself for thirty-seven continuous years on the capital of a pillar, we feel sure that no ambition to sea, in Liowa person, and St. Jean added to the Alexandria Calendar would ever induce our Colonna Pacha voluntarily to remain inactive during a single day, whilst there is useful work to be done; much less for so long a period as would be necessary to obtain his canonisation. Long may he continue in that frame of mind and the city benefit by his activity and the wisdom of his fellow pillar in the Commission of the Alexandria Municipality.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

Cattle Plague.
Bovine typhus has broken out in the Kafr Zayat district.

H. M. S. Andromeda.

Our Suez Correspondent reports that H. M. S. Andromeda entered the Canal yesterday afternoon, homeward bound.

The Brindisi Mail.

The mail from Europe, via Brindisi and Port Said, will be distributed at the G.P.O., Alexandria, at 4.45 p.m. to-day.

Quay Thief.

A native was arrested by the Customs Police yesterday for stealing a quantity of soap from merchandise on the quays.

Orwa-El-Woska.

The annual general meeting of the Moslem Benevolent Society of Alexandria (Orwa-el-Woska) will take place to-morrow.

Bandmann Opera Company.

We understand that the Bandmann Opera Company has applied for the use of the Khe-divial Opera House from October 8 to 17.

Mex Quarantine Park.

The Public Works Ministry has accepted the tender of M. C. Fenerli for the strengthening and renewal of the sheds at the Quarantine Park at Mex.

Baths for Cairo.

"Al-Zaher" learns that a French company intends purchasing the Princes Club with a view to converting it into baths, which will be called "The Divonne Baths."

Anti-Rabic Institute.

The Ministry of Finance has granted the administration of the Italian Anti-Rabic Institute at Cairo the sum of L.E. 1,100 as compensation for the closing of the institute on the opening of the Government one.

Accident in Harbour.

A labourer, while working on board the Khe-divial steamer Ismailia yesterday, was knocked overboard on to the pontoon by the chain of a winch and received serious injuries, which necessitated his removal to hospital.

The Post Office.

The following figures show the very remarkable growth which has taken place in the numbers of letters passing through the Egyptian Post Office during the last twenty years:—1885, 12,500,000; 1890, 16,300,000; 1895, 22,400,000; 1900, 31,900,000; 1905, 50,700,000.

Frozen Meat Imports.

The value of the frozen meat brought to Port Said harbour from Australia and New Zealand in 1905 was L.E. 31,000 as against L.E. 19,000 in 1904. Until recently the meat was supplied almost entirely for the use of ships in transit, but a promising trade is springing up with the interior, at Cairo and Alexandria.

Alexandria and Bridge.

A writer in the "Saturday Review" mentions a letter he has received in which it is stated that bridge was played as far back as the 'seventies by the Greek colony in Manchester. "No trumps" then counted ten per trick instead of twelve, and four aces in one hand eighty instead of 100. The "heart" convention was also known and practised. There is, too, a pamphlet in the British Museum on "Biritch," dated 1886, which gives a brief account of the game, with the rules much as they exist at present. The members of the Greek colony at Manchester referred to by the correspondent of our London contemporary probably brought the game from Alexandria, where it is known to have been played before the 'seventies.

British Benevolent Fund.

The annual report for 1905 of the British Benevolent Fund at Alexandria shows that the cash balance in hand on the 1st of January, 1906, was £192 11s. 4d., as against £180 12s. 11d. on the 1st January, 1905. The amount subscribed by our community during the year has been £207 8s., as against £210 7s. 6d. last year, and £219 18s. 6d. the year before. In addition to the money thus subscribed special donations of £18 were received from Mr. Claude Rolo on the occasion of his marriage, and of £5 from Mr. Salomon Sasson on the occasion of the marriage of his son, and £4 16s. 10d. interest on invested funds. The total expenditure of the year was £339 9s. 9d. The sum of £124 3s. 4d. was recovered from the British and Maltese Governments and from individuals. An Egyptian Banking Account.

Not many paupers in English workhouses have banking accounts in Egyptian banks, so when it was discovered last week that a pensioned staff sergeant name Hogue, who had been sent to the South Stowham workhouse by the military authorities at Netley, had a bankbook showing 26,941 rupees to his credit in an Egyptian bank, considerable discussion ensued. He also was the possessor of twelve portmanteaux, fifteen or sixteen suits of clothes, a Masonic apron and jewels as well as under clothes. The poor-law authorities have obtained an order from the magistrates to deduct the man's cost of maintenance whilst in the workhouse. It was stated that Hogue, who hails from St. Mary's, Kilkenny, was sent to the workhouse because he was not capable of looking after himself, and his sister is coming from Ireland to fetch him away. The guardians resolved to write to the Minister for War asking why the man was sent to them.

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French, German, Italian, Greek, Arabic, etc. Private Lessons, Residence Lessons, taught by Native Masters.

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CAIRO: 1 Shara Kamel.

TRIAL LESSON FREE.

BAGDAD RAILWAY.

AN INTERESTING SUGGESTION.

BRITISH CO-OPERATION.

(Gazette's Special Service).

LONDON, Wednesday.

The current number of "L'Energie Francaise" contains an interesting suggestion for the settlement of the Bagdad Railway question by submitting the same to an international conference. The writer points out that the Germans are straining every nerve to secure the maintenance in its integrity of their concession, but its possession by them is tantamount to a seizure by Germany of the Ottoman Empire.

The "Standard's" Berlin correspondent says that great importance is attached in Berlin to the advocacy of British co-operation with Germany in the construction of the railway, which Berlin expects will become as important as the Suez Canal.

The correspondent further states that no communications whatever have passed between London and Berlin on this subject, but that there is clearly no obstacle to the opening of a discussion of the matter.

GERMANY IN THE LEVANT.

In reference to the recent frontier incident, a not unknown politician observed the other day, "What we have been witnessing is the first utilisation by the German of his Turkish auxiliaries against the position of Great Britain in the East. It is the first point, remember, at which the latter is vulnerable to the pressure of a Continental Power by land. The future will attest the absolute truth of his forecast if Germany succeeds, as she intends, in permeating Syria, Palestine, and Turkish Arabia with her railways. And with this purpose in view she employed the Turk as her *avant courrier*. It is not a venturesome prophecy, therefore, that any success gained by Turkey at the expense of Great Britain in the present instance would have been followed by an immediate and material advance of German influence in the Near East."

TURKS AND THE FRONTIER.

According to the latest news from Gaza ten Turkish soldiers only remain encamped south of the pillars on Egyptian territory, which the Turks allege is part of the Sultan's private property.

The authorities have summoned the chiefs of different Bedouin tribes under Ottoman rule, and made them sign a declaration to the effect that the pillars were never erected for the purpose of marking the boundary, but were merely the remains of ancient ruins; that Turkish territory stretches several hundred paces south of the pillars; lastly, that the pillars were removed by the Rumsilat tribe, inhabiting the Egyptian side, as an act of revenge because they were driven two months ago from land lately registered in the Sultan's name, which they claim as theirs, and have tillied from time immemorial.

In order to shift their responsibility, the Turks now allege that the pillars were purposely removed by the Rumeilat and hidden to cause complications, and that when His Majesty's cruiser Minerva called they were transported on board at night time. The Egyptian telegraph poles still remain un-restored.

THE OXYRHYNCHUS FINDS.

The publication of the chief literary papyri from the new finds will begin in Part V. of the Oxyrhynchus Papyri, to be issued in 1907, and will be continued in succeeding volumes of the same series. Meanwhile, funds are urgently needed by the branch in order to complete the excavation of all the more promising portions of Oxyrhynchus before the concession for the site is given up. For this object, at least one more season's work is necessary. Subscriptions for the Greco-Roman branch should be sent to the Hon. Treasurer, Mr. H. A. Grainger, at the offices of the Egypt Exploration Fund, 37, Great Russell-street, W.C. Subscribers of one guinea are entitled to the annual volume.

EGYPTIAN COTTON IN INDIA.

The record price recently paid in Liverpool for Sind Cotton grown from Egyptian seed is likely to have a healthy effect upon Indian buyers. They have hitherto regarded such cotton with distrust, being unaccustomed to purchase high grade produce. The Government had to make special arrangements in order to dispose of the crop grown last season, but the price offered by a few firms was believed to be much below the true market value. For this reason samples were shipped to Liverpool by the Bombay Department of Agriculture with a view to securing a real valuation. The result has abundantly justified the action of the Government. As 6,000 acres are under Egyptian cotton, the yield next season will be large enough to induce a brisk trade in the local market, so that the cultivator will be sure of getting proper prices and the extension of the cultivation will be stimulated.

M. GENNAIDIS' DEPARTURE.

ALLEGED ATHENIAN CABAL.

The 16 presidents of the various Hellenic clubs and societies met on Monday at the Centre Hellenique, Cairo, under the presidency of M. Rostovtzeff, to express their deep regret at the departure from Egypt of M. Gennadis, late Hellenic Diplomatic Agent and Consul-General at Cairo. The committee decided (1) to formally express the regret of the Greek community in Cairo at the recall of M. Gennadis; (2) to organise a banquet in honour of the ex-Minister; (3) to open a subscription for the purchase of a valuable present to be offered to M. Gennadis in the name of the Greek community.

A committee of three, M. M. Stacopoulo, Belleni, and Athanassaki, have been charged by the community to proceed to Athens and there express to His Majesty King George of Greece and to his Government the regret of the Greek colony in Egypt at the departure of M. Gennadis.

The "Standard's" Berlin correspondent says that great importance is attached in Berlin to the advocacy of British co-operation with Germany in the construction of the railway, which Berlin expects will become as important as the Suez Canal.

The man had means of his own and was in no want of money. He lived quietly at the hotel with his brother. This morning, however, he showed signs of aberration and began to tear to pieces a number of shares which he possessed. His brother rushed to the French Consulate to ask that he should be placed under protection and the Consulate at once despatched M. Bertrand and a kawass to the house.

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For the first time, in the existence of the Egyptian State Railways have placed an order for rails in Germany and Belgium. Price, of course, was the consideration, for nothing but price could afford an excuse for purchasing basic steel rails in preference to those of recognised qualities, whether from Germany or any other country. Such an action is, of course, to be deplored not merely on the ground of its being a loss of trade to Great Britain, but because it is a great misfortune that a system of the growing importance of the Egyptian State Railways should adopt a penny wise and pound foolish policy at the present time. Up to now these railways have been notoriously careful as to the quality of their material, although they have bought in many markets, and, especially with regard to their rolling stock, have acquired a somewhat miscellaneous assortment. Of late years a great deal of trouble and expense have been incurred in the direction of perfecting and standardising of their plant and equipment; and replacing foreign—notably American—bogie wagons by those of British make.

And now a sudden and disastrous retrogressive step has been taken by placing an order for £150,000 worth of Continental basic rails. Basic steel bears much the same relation to acid steel that Continental natural cement bears to British Portland cement. It is not to be relied upon except for certain work, although within limits apparently excellent tests can be obtained from it. The disastrous effects of the German basic steel axles on the Metropolitan Railway have afforded a convincing proof of the untrustworthy nature of this commodity. Again, the failures of basic steel boilers, even under hydraulic test pressures, and when constructed in every other respect according to accepted rules, show that for any work subject to pressure or stress basic steel should not be employed. Some months ago we gave some particulars and pictures of the effect of ordinary wear and tear on basic steel rails in America, and we reproduce from that article a picture giving sections of two of these rails after they had been in use for five months and five weeks respectively. The specimens were cut from samples of what were considered, at the time of laying, perfectly sound rails. Basic steel, however, is peculiarly subject to "piping," and the samples in question were, of course, badly flawed in this manner, though the flaws were not perceptible at the time of inspection. In the Austrian boiler tests above referred to it is interesting to note that samples cut actually from the defective plates appeared when inspected, and even tested, to be sound. To employ such material on an important system like the Egyptian State Railways at a time when hundreds of thousands of pounds are being spent for the purpose of making it the finest in Africa appears to us a very false policy. It is to be presumed, however, that the authorities will hardly lay these rails on anything but branch lines and sidings where heavy traffic will not be the order of the day. The effect of the experiment will be watched with interest. We have not particulars of the exact price per ton charged for these rails, but the value of the contract was about £150,000, and there were 21,000 tons, so that it would appear that the price works out at a little over £7 per ton. If such is the case, one can hardly blame the manufacturer, whether he be German or anyone else, if the quality of the rails should prove unsatisfactory.

The Khedival will also hold a reception at the Palace on Saturday. The Princesses of the Khedivial Family and native ladies will be received from 10 to 11.30 a.m., and European ladies from 4 to 5 p.m.

KHEDIVIAL RECEPTION.

The following is the order in which visitors will be received at the Khedival reception to be held at the Ras-el-Tin Palace on Saturday:

At 9 a.m.—T.H. the Princess of the Khedivial Family; the Ulema; the heads of State Administrations.

At 9.30 a.m.—The Mixed Magistracy; the Native Magistracy; naval and army officers of the rank of Bimashband upwards; civil officials.

At 10 a.m.—Uncivilized military and civil persons having the rank of Lewa or Oula Sif Sani and upwards; naval and army officers unattached and on the retired list having the rank of Kaimakam or Miralai; unofficial civil Bays having the rank of Sanieb and upwards; the Municipal Commission.

At 10.30 a.m.—The Diplomatic and Consular Corps.

At 10.45 a.m.—Field officers of the Army of Occupation; the clergy.

At 11 a.m.—Native notables; European notables.

This reception is reserved to persons residing in Alexandria.

The military will attend in undress uniform and civilians in frock coats (redingote).

The civil officials admitted to this reception are those having at least the rank of sub-director or an equivalent rank, and those having at least the grade of Sanieb or Kaimakam (military), and the magistrates appointed by decree.

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DAMIETTA GOVERNORAT.

It is stated that the Government will grant the petition of the Damietta deputation, by re-establishing a governorate in that town under the direct administration of the Ministry of the Interior. Faraskour Markaz, however, which was abolished and added to Damietta, will be under the administration of the Dakahliyah.

MOTOR CARS FOR THE SUDAN.

Experiments have recently been made with a view to seeing how far motor-cars are adapted for use in the Sudan. It appears certain that in their construction the use of wood should be avoided as far as possible. For the benefit of motor-car manufacturers we give the following extract from a memorandum communicated to Lord Cromer by Sir Reginald Wingate:

"A car of suitable design for the Sudan should embody the following details: powerful engine; metal wheels; substantial gear-box, with high and very low gears; efficient radiation; clutch to withstand frequent slipping; strong springs; weight suitably distributed on the frame; carrying capacity for large supply of fuel and water, spare parts, and a certain amount of luggage; and all working parts must be carefully inclosed as a protection against sand."

DR. EDELMANN.

The following donations have been received in favour of Dr. Albert Edelmann:—

G. G. Hunter Jones ... L.E. 0 487 1

Delta Lodge, Tantah ... 2 —

J. Inglis and friends ... 1 775

H. G. Sheppard ... 1 950

FALSE ECONOMY.

ORDERS FOR STEEL RAILS.

GERMANY GIVEN PREFERENCE.

The way in which the Egyptian Government places orders in Germany when it would be far better and cheaper to get the articles required from England is beginning to attract the attention of the English Press. The latest affair which has been noticed is the order for continental basic rails. "African Engineering" remarks:—

"For the first time, in the existence of the Egyptian State Railways have placed an order for rails in Germany and Belgium. Price, of course, was the consideration, for nothing but price could afford an excuse for purchasing basic steel rails in preference to those of recognised qualities, whether from Germany or any other country. Such an action is, of course, to be deplored not merely on the ground of its being a loss of trade to Great Britain, but because it is a great misfortune that a system of the growing importance of the Egyptian State Railways should adopt a penny wise and pound foolish policy at the present time. Up to now these railways have been notoriously careful as to the quality of their material, although they have bought in many markets, and, especially with regard to their rolling stock, have acquired a somewhat miscellaneous assortment. Of late years a great deal of trouble and expense have been incurred in the direction of perfecting and standardising of their plant and equipment; and replacing foreign—notably American—bogie wagons by those of British make."

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TO-DAY'S TELEGRAMS.

THE CHINESE CUSTOMS.

REPLY TO BRITISH NOTE.

PEKING, May 29.

The Chinese have replied to the second British Note evasively, but Mr. Carnegie's sub-sequently conferred with the Wai-Wu-Pu and states that he expects that satisfaction will shortly be given. (Reuter)

LONDON, May 29.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—Sir E. Gray stated that China had promised to reaffirm, formally, that the administration of the Customs would continue as at present constituted. (Reuter)

THE NATAL REBELLION.

REPULSE OF REBELS.

DURBAN, May 29.

The rebels attacked Colonel Leesop's column, but after two hours' fighting were repulsed with seventy killed and many wounded. The Natalians had one killed and several wounded. (Reuter)

THE SPANISH MARRIAGE.

OFFICIAL FETES BEGUN.

MADRID, May 29.

A deputation of both Houses of the Cortes have presented addresses to Princess Eulalia offering fervent prayers for her happiness. (R.)

MADRID, May 29.

The Prince and Princess of Wales have arrived. They travelled in an ordinary compartment, having been unable to obtain a special train owing to the confusion arising from the simultaneous arrival of numerous notabilities.

The official fêtes started to-day. The weather is superb. The city is ablaze with decorations and masses of flowers. (Reuter)

EDUCATION BILL.

FIRST CLAUSE ADOPTED.

LONDON, May 29.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—The first clause of the Education Bill has been adopted by 365 votes to 162. (Reuter)

GENERAL STOESSEL.

TO BE COURT-MARTIALLED.

ST. PETERSBURG, May 29.

The Port Arthur enquiry commission has recommended that General Stoessel should be tried by Court Martial. (Reuter)

THE DUMA.

ST. PETERSBURG, May 29.

The Duma, yesterday, disregarding the Government, declaration, continued to discuss measures for the betterment of the people. (Reuter)

ST. PETERSBURG, May 29.

One hundred and eleven members of the Duma demand the equality of citizens. (H.)

AUSTRIAN CABINET CRISIS.

VIENNA, May 29.

The Cabinet has resigned owing to the Emperor having sanctioned the autonomous Hungarian Customs tariff. (Reuter)

VIENNA, May 29.

Prince von Hohenlohe has resigned owing to the impossibility of concluding a Customs agreement with Hungary. (Havas)

NEW ITALIAN CABINET.

ROME, May 29.

Sig. Giolitti has formed the Cabinet. Sig. Tittoni is Minister for Foreign Affairs. (Havas)

FIGHTING THE HOTTENTOTS.

BERLIN, May 29.

Frequent engagements have taken place with the Hottentots in South-West Africa. Nineteen men have been killed and twenty-one wounded, including four officers, since the 21st of the month. (Reuter)

HOME SPORT.

DERBY BETTING.

LONDON, May 29.

Derby betting. 4 to 1 against Lally and Spearmint. 10 to 1 Gorgo, Saucy, and Black Arrow. 100 to 9 Malua. 100 to 8 Picton. 20 to 1 Radom and Sarcelle. 25 to 1 Beppo and White Knight. 33 to 1 Troutbeck.

Croquet. Liverpool. Lancashire v. Notts: Lancashire won by 60 runs.

M.C.C. v. Leicestershire. Leicestershire won by 16 runs.

Surrey v. Gloucestershire. Surrey won by 10 wickets.

Brighton: Sussex v. Derbyshire. Sussex won by 88 runs.

Cambridge University v. Northamptonshire. Cambridge won by an innings and 78 runs. (Reuter)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our correspondents, but we wish, in a spirit of fair play to all, to permit within certain necessary limits free discussion.

OUR CONSULAR SERVICE.

REPLY TO "CIVIS."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "EGYPTIAN GAZETTE." Sir.—"Civis" has in his reply to my article on "Our Consuls" attempted to imitate the unparalleled feat of Sampson, to overthrow the very foundation of my argument, which rests on the three questions, which are as to I, Nationality; II, Qualifications; III, Character. His silence on Question I. implies his tacit agreement with it. To Question II, he replies that "the necessary qualifications for Consul are more numerous than he would appear to imagine. mere commercial knowledge is nothing—if not backed up by a knowledge of the languages and history of the locality to which he is appointed." Herein I must beg to differ with learned counsel for the defence. History, like the majority of consular reports (which, by the bye, I have consulted in English, French, German, and Italian), is retrospective; in business, my dear "Civis," we gamble in "futures," never in "pasts," no matter how brilliant they may have been. There are many wise sayings on this score, and the one that suits best the present case is, "Happy the nation that has no history." If language and history are to be the background to the commercial knowledge of the Consul, then the best men whom the Foreign Office should appoint would be those eminent men who occupy the chairs of languages and history in our home universities.

However, in fairness to "Civis," I will submit the following instance, which is founded on absolute fact:—I know a Consul-General from the United States of America who knew about Turkey and its languages no more than the man in the moon. All he could speak was Yaa-ke, in fact in many ways he was as ignorant as the ordinary tourist; but with this saving virtue, "he was a business man." Knowing neither the country nor its languages, he nevertheless set to in a practical, business way, and in a couple of years had organised a direct steamship line from New York to Turkey, had fought a corner which opposed some flour he was importing, introduced American agricultural machinery in large quantities into Asia Minor, and had by simple business experience established a strong foothold for American produce. Was this the result of history and language, or simply business capacity? The remark applies to the German, Austrian, and Italian Consulates, who have come to recognise that commerce, the exponent of a nation's wealth and labour, is the one thing worth knowing. May I ask if Germany owes her recent tremendous expansion to the knowledge of languages and history or to the more profitable one of trade?

If "mere commercial knowledge is nothing" history and language, which "Civis" says are essential to it, show otherwise. Tyre and Sidon owed their very existence as a sea power to commercial knowledge; the languages and history of the many lands to which they extended their commerce were of no use to them in pushing their goods, for I very much doubt whether the Phoenician who landed on the shores of Britain knew much either about the language or the history of our ancestors. Venice, which is the historical replica of Tyre and Sidon, certainly did not find markets for her wares simply by her knowledge of the languages and history of the people whose lands she invaded, and where the grand old monuments of that bold Republic still testify to the commercial knowledge of her Consuls, or Bayles.

No, my dear Civis, your argument won't hold water. Trade and the deepest knowledge of it are the pillars upon which Britain rests, as other nations are finding; they are the bases, moreover, of politics and history, and certainly have had more to do with the making of language than any other factor, because of the immense interests involved. Germany has not a single warship in the Aegean, nor a soldier nearer to Turkey than the Riesen Gebirge, and yet to-day her influence in Constantinople is stronger than were the guns of her North Sea fleet collectively trained on Yildz Kiosque. And why? Simply because Kaiser, and Ambassador, and Consul have realized that "mere" commercial knowledge is the key to Asia. The Consul in his official capacity can get information which neither commercial traveller nor British manufacturer can; but how many of them do so? Their time, they say, is occupied with far more important matters, whereas as a matter of fact it is these "less" significant matters of trade that are the really important ones. Supposing the Consul, as he ought, has at his finger-ends, the lowest c.i.t. quotation of our rivals and duly notifies the fact, is not this prompt information much better for British trade than the stereotyped return, which explains nothing? Let us go into details as they are in matter-of-fact life: A particular shape of spade is used by the Turkish labourer, who buys it in Stamboul at 20 piastres retail; the article is of local manufacture. The German Consul will note this, pack off a specimen to Berlin, quoting the lowest wholesale prices for it, and giving details about it just as if he were the salaried agent of a hardware house. The result is that machinery wins the day over hand labour, and the next thing we see is a German-made spade on the Stamboul market selling for 15 piastres retail. And this applies not only to spades, but to everything else. The German Consul enters into the practical side of things, deals by piece with each article, whereas his British colleague contented himself with a general survey, which, however, overlooks the essential details.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

I recognise in the Consul the salaried commercial traveller of the British nation; his sole duties, I hold, are the safeguarding, fostering, and promotion of our trade-politics are for his Embassy to deal with. The Capitulations have led the Consular Body astray from the right path of their duties, but at any rate in one province of the Ottoman Empire a reform seems looming on the horizon in this respect.

I have exhausted your patience and the ink-pot, but under the circumstances I feel I am justified in having done so. Too much history has blinded us to the great strides of our rivals. If twenty years ago Turkish trade was in our hands we must not still base our calculations on that record, but see how we stand "now" and how we shall stand in the "future." The only way for our Consul to tell us this is by means of commercial knowledge, *le nerf de la guerre*.

XENOS.

Bulkeley, May 30.

TURKEY SUSPICIOUS.

The Porte appears to view the proposed Anglo-Russian rapprochement with suspicion. Anglophobes and Russophobes alike are a telegram from Constantinople states, united as to the necessity of impressing upon the Sultan the almost vital importance which such an event would possess in relation to Turkey.

For some years his Majesty has been actuated by the conviction that a spirit of mutual suspicion and distrust on the part of Great Britain and Russia was indispensable to the preservation of the integrity of Ottoman rule in Mesopotamia and of the authority which his Majesty still possesses over a part of the littoral of the Persian Gulf. An Anglo-Russian entente, in order to justify its title, would imply that a special understanding had been arrived at between the two countries on various debatable questions, including, amongst others, those of the Persian province of Iraq and the Persian Gulf.

It is easy to understand, therefore, how the possibility of an entente which would propose an agreement on these two questions, amongst other Asian problems, is occupying the mind of Abdal Hamid, who is naturally distrustful of every re-grouping of his European neighbours. In this dilemma his Majesty has begun to place his hopes in an abrupt entry on the scene of Germany, who, in his opinion, will not allow any of the Powers to minimise the authority of Turkey in the Persian Gulf.

The apprehension is also felt by the Sultan that an Anglo-Russian agreement would eventually lead to the demand for an amalgamation of the conditions of the Armenian inhabitants of Anatolia. From this point, it would be a natural consequence for Great Britain and Russia to unite in the application in Macedonia, and also in the province of Adrianople, of a programme of reforms which should be effective in every sense of the word—a programme which Great Britain alone, amongst the Great Powers of Europe, has appeared disposed seriously to enter in.

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ALEXANDRIE

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2468081-10-905

Societe Commerciale d'Egypte

Messieurs les actionnaires de la Société Commerciale d'Egypte sont prévenus que, conformément à l'art. 20 des Statuts de la Société une assemblée générale ordinaire aura lieu le 30 Juin 1906, à 4 h. de relevée, au siège de la Société à Alexandrie.

ORDRE DU JOUR:

- 1.—Rapport du Conseil d'Administration sur la situation des affaires de la Société.
- 2.—Rapport de Messieurs les Censeurs.
- 3.—Approbation des comptes et fixation du dividende.
- 4.—Nomination de deux Censeurs pour l'exercice 1906-1907 et fixation de leur indemnité annuelle.
- 5.—Renouvellement par tiers du Conseil d'Administration.
- 6.—Propositions diverses.

NOTA: Conformément à l'art. 37 des Statuts, tout porteur de 5 actions a droit d'assister à l'assemblée générale ordinaire.

Les actions doivent être déposées au Siège de la Société, quinze jours au moins avant l'assemblée générale, c'est-à-dire, au plus tard le 15 Juin 1906 (Art. 28 des Statuts).

Le Président du Conseil d'Administration.

M. SINADINO.

Alexandrie, le 28 Mai 1906. 28-07-3-2

Administration des Chemins de Fer de l'Etat Egyptien

AVIS

L'Administration des Chemins de fer et des Télégraphes de l'Etat a l'honneur de porter à la connaissance du public qu'à partir du 25 mai courant, l'heure d'ouverture du Bureau Téraphique de Gizeh, Caire, sera de 8 h. a.m. à 5 h. p.m. sans interruption.

Le Caire, le 25 Mai 1906. 28000 2-2

Municipalité d'Alexandrie.

AVIS

La Municipalité met en adjudication les travaux d'asphaltage des rues autour de la Mosquée el Miri.

Le cautionnement est fixé à L.E. 140 (cent quarante).

Le cahier des charges est déposé au Bureau de la Voie où il peut être consulté par les intéressés tous les jours de 9 h. à midi, les jours fériés, exceptés.

Les offres devront être adressées sous pli cacheté à Monsieur l'Administrateur de la Municipalité avant le 12 juin 1906.

Elles pourront également être déposées en séance de la Délégation le même jour à 5 h. p.m.

L'enveloppe devra porter en outre la mention: "Soumission pour asphaltage rues autour de la Mosquée el Miri."

Le cautionnement ou le reçu d'une banque, d'après les conditions du cahier des charges, devra être remis séparément au Service de la Comptabilité Générale avant l'ouverture des offres et plus tard le 12 j. in 1906 à midi.

Toute offre qui ne remplit pas les conditions ci-dessus sera écartée.

L'Administrateur,

(Signé) W. P. CHATAWAY.

Alexandrie, le 29 mai 1906. 28-012-3-1

Societe Internationale des Employes d'ALEXANDRIE.

SIEGE SOCIAL RUE MOSQUEE ATTARINE No. 21

BUREAU DE PLACEMENT

THE ANCIENT EGYPTIANS AND THE HEREAFTER.

To those interested in finding out what was the ancient Egyptians' conception of the Great Beyond we can recommend a careful study of Dr. E. A. Wallis Budge's recent work, just published under the title of "The Egyptian Heaven and Hell." Those students of Egyptology who have read Dr. Budge's former works, on "The Religion of Egypt" and on "The Gods of the Egyptians," will find the present composition of great assistance in following up their researches into this most fascinating subject, for it contains many important papyri and inscriptions, discovered in recent years, which are now published, for the first time. The author points out that the work is the outcome of two lectures on the Books of the Tuat, i.e., the Egyptian Underworld, or "Other World," delivered at the Royal Institution in the spring of 1904, and it has been prepared at the suggestion of many who wished to continue their enquiries into the beliefs of the Egyptians concerning the abode of the departed, and the state of the blessed and the damned. The object of all the Books of the Other World, he goes on to explain, was to provide the dead with a "Guide" or "Handbook," containing a description of the regions through which their souls would have to pass on their way to the Kingdom of Osiris, or to that portion of the sky where the sun rose, and which would supply them with the words of power, and magical names necessary for making an unimpeded journey from this world to the abode of the blessed. The principal Books of the Underworld in vogue under the 18th and 19th Dynasties were: (1) *Per En-Hru*, or, "The Book of the Coming Forth by Day." (2) *Shat En Am Tuat*, or, "The Book of that which is in the Tuat." (3) The composition to which the name "Book of Gates" has been given.

"The Egyptian Heaven and Hell" is published in three volumes, the first of which contains the complete hieroglyphic text of the Book of Am Tuat, together with translations and reproductions of all illustrations. These illustrations, numbering 180, have been reproduced with great accuracy, and the student will find this part of the work of great value. The translations contain some very descriptive passages, and afford further evidence of the high state of culture attained by the Egyptians of old. The following, from the scene that illustrates the Fifth Division of the Tuat, which is passed through by the Sun-god during the Fifth Hour of the night, is a typical example: "This great god saith, O ye stand by your waters, who keep ward over your lands, who go round about in the pool of those who are submerged in Nu, pilot ye these to the lands of the sea of the Tuat, unto your waters which never dry up, and rise ye up in your lands and let me travel over you in peace. This great god saith, O ye lift ye up your weapons to your image, and protect ye the foreheads of your *maat*, and perform ye your work, in order that I may be able to pass by you in peace."

Also this, concerning the story of the Nine Serpents:—"The majesty of this great god speaketh words to these male gods who are at the head of this city:—Hail, O nine forms of the divine spirits, whose faces are of flames, who are provided with your knives, burn ye up the enemies of Khepera, hack in pieces their shades, for ye are the warders of the Hidden Flesh, which is made of Nu, your habitation, for it is ye who dwell in the Water of Ta-thenen, and it is for you that the magical powers of Khepera came into being. They have their means of living from the word of Ra every day. The work which they do in the Tuat is to back asunder the dead, and to cause the spirits to be destroyed."

The second volume gives the complete hieroglyphic text of the Summary of the Book Am-Tuat, and the hieroglyphic text of the Book of Gates, with translations and reproductions of all illustrations. This "Summary of the Book of what is in the Underworld" affords a clear idea of what the Egyptians of the past believed of the "Other World." We reproduce the translation of "The First Hour":—"This god entereth into the earth through the Hall of the horizon of Amentet. There are one hundred and twenty Atra to journey over in this Hall before a man arriveth at the gates of the Tuat.

"The name of the first Field of the Tuat is NET RA. He (i.e., RA) allotteth fields to the gods who are in (his) following, and he beginneth to send forth words to and to work out the plan of the divine beings of the Tuat in respect of this Field.

"Whosoever shall have these made (i.e., copied) according to the similitude which is in Ament of the Tuat (and) whosoever shall have knowledge of these similitudes (which are) the copies of this great god himself, they shall act as magical protectors for him upon earth regularly and unsafely, and they shall act magical protectors for him in the great Tuat.

"USHEMET-HATU-KHEFTI-RA is the name of the (first) hour of the night which giveth this great god through this Hall."

The concluding volume deals with the origin of the illustrated guides to the Other World, in which the history and development of these wonderful text-books, which enable us so accurately to understand the definite ideas held by the ancients of the abode of the departed, are admirably and elaborately traced from the earliest times. We are told that the oldest of the known Books of the Dead, that is, the religious compositions which are inscribed on the walls of the chambers and corridors of the pyramids of kings Unas, Tet, Pepi I, Mer-en-Ra, and Pepi II, are without illustrations of any kind, and this fact is difficult of explanation,

for it is apparent, from the evidences we have around us, that even in these early days the Egyptians possessed remarkable artistic ability, which, it would be thought, would have manifested itself in the religious works, as it did at a later date.

To Professor Maspero we are indebted for a probable solution of the difficulty. According to him the "pyramid texts" contain formulas and paragraphs, which have the appearance of having been composed in the earliest times of Egyptian civilisation. These formulas are interspersed with others of later periods, and it is believed that, at the time when the "pyramid texts" were cut into stone, these religious compositions were intended to contain expressions of pious thought about the hereafter which would satisfy both those who accepted the ancient indigenous beliefs and those who were prepared to believe the doctrines which had been promulgated by the priests of the famous brotherhood of Ra, the Sun god, who had made their headquarters in Egypt at Anna, i.e., On, or Heliopolis. The oldest Books of the Dead, in fact, represent the compromise arrived at under the 4th, 5th and 6th Dynasties, between the priests of the old and the new religions.

Dr. Budge must have devoted an enormous amount of time and energy to be able to present the subject in such detail, yet in so readable a form, and he deserves the thanks of all Egyptologists for the further services he has thus rendered to the cause of Egyptian research.

The printing of the hieroglyphics and drawings is admirable, as is also the text.

The work is published by Messrs Kegan, Paul, Trench, Trübner & Co., Ltd., Gerrard St., London, W., price 6s. per volume.

SOLDIERING IN EGYPT.

A3 OTHERS SEE US.

(From "Les Annales Anticoïliques.") The English Army of Occupation in Egypt numbers about 6,000 men, who are paid a shilling a day by the Egyptian Government. In a country where the wine imported from Greece and Italy is very cheap, and where spirits of all kinds can be had for a piastre, it might be imagined that the streets of Alexandria and Cairo would present a frequent spectacle of military drunkenness. On the contrary such a spectacle is very rare, at all events as far as the privates and the non-commissioned officers are concerned.

A fact perhaps still more remarkable is that the sailors from English men-of-war, who are allowed to go on shore at Alexandria, almost invariably set an excellent example to foreigners and natives in their behaviour—in this presenting a sad contrast to what is often seen among our own French sailors.

What is the reason for these things? It is to be found in an admirable organisation which is extending more and more in the British Empire, and is especially active in Alexandria and Cairo. I refer to the temperance homes erected and carried on for the benefit of His Britannic Majesty's soldiers and sailors.

The English woman who loves her country has found that it is necessary to keep British soldiers as far as possible from contact with the natives of the countries where they are stationed. This contact taking place chiefly in the liquor shops to the great detriment of the soldier's health, it is especially these that must be opposed. She has said to herself that, in order not to give subject races the spectacle of rulers whom they cannot respect, those who represent and maintain the authority of Great Britain must be intelligently occupied and constantly interested, and she has shown herself equal to the task. She has everywhere created soldiers' and sailors' homes, where the men, during their sojourn in that country or their stay on shore, can find united the greatest comfort and the most healthy recreation. Games of all kinds—billiards, football, tennis, cricket, chess, draughts, cards—a well-filled library, writing and reading-rooms, bath-rooms, etc., are all found in these homes. Alcohol is entirely forbidden there. The supervision of the ladies serving on the committee of these homes is most thorough, and the needs of the men are carefully noted and supplied.

The result of these efforts is that the discipline and the behaviour of the English Army in Egypt is beyond praise, and has produced a very favourable impression on the native Egyptians. Though the latter still dislike their conquerors, and still cherish a lively sympathy for the French, yet they feel a certain mistrust of French soldiers, owing to their intemperance.

AU DE ROUGE. GENERAL DRAPERY ESTABLISHMENT.

(Central Tramway Station),

CAIRO.

P. PLUNKETT.

PROPRIETOR.

DIRECT IMPORTER OF BRITISH AND IRISH

TEXTILE MANUFACTURES.

Irish Linen Sheetings.

Fine Irish Linen Frontings.

Irish Linen Handkerchiefs.

Irish Linen Table Cloths, assorted

widths, to suit Military messes, Hotel and Club tables, any length cut.

LES SOCIETES ANONYMES EGYPTIENNES

POLITIQUE DU GOUVERNEMENT

Un de nos confrères du Caire dans un article consacré aux compensations accordées aux promoteurs d'une société anonyme, s'exprime ainsi:

Les promoteurs de sociétés ont principalement en vue, cela se croit aisément, le bénéfice qu'ils peuvent personnellement tirer de l'affaire qu'ils se sont chargés de manier à bien. En Egypte, ce bénéfice consiste, principalement en parts de fondateur.

C'est à dire que si l'affaire est bonne le bénéfice du promoteur est assuré par la valeur qu'acquiert la part de fondateur, si elle est mauvaise, la part de bénéfice ne vaut rien et le bénéfice du promoteur est nul. Il a donc tout intérêt à ne s'occuper que de bonnes affaires, d'affaires en valeur car, plus elles seront sérieuses, plus elles seront honnêtes, plus elles feront gagner d'argent aux actionnaires et plus elles gagneront lui-même. C'est facile à comprendre.

En Angleterre, ce souci a été, depuis longtemps supprimé par les promoteurs. Ils gardent les parts de fondateur quand il y en a, mais ils n'en créent pas souvent parce que c'est mal vu. Il faut, en effet, être un imbécile pour se contenter d'un bénéfice hypothétique, alors qu'il est si simple d'accorder une compensation immédiate en bonnes espèces sonnantes et trébuchantes. Le promoteur anglais n'est pas un imbécile; c'est une homme très pratique qui préfère dix mille livres sûres et comprenant à vingt mille livres probables dans quatre ou cinq ans; les parts de fondateur ne sont que de papier et ne lui disent rien qui vaille.

Voici, à titre de curiosité, un petit relevé des compensations accordées aux promoteurs dans les dernières affaires constituées, avec du capital égyptien, sous le régime anglais:

Egyptian Investment and Agency.
Dépenses préliminaires £2,500 syndicat de garantie 2%.

Egyptian Estates
Dépenses préliminaires £6,000 et 20,000 parts de fondateur.

Egyptian Trust and Investment
Dépenses préliminaires £6,000 syndicat de garantie 2 1/2%.

Egyptian Land and General Trust.
Dépenses préliminaires £4,000 syndicat de garantie 3%.

Egyptian Constructions.
Goodwill (chentèle) £30,000 ce prix comprend aussi le coût des membres du bureau. Plus pour garantie d'une partie de la souscription £6,000. Plus 5% de commission pour garantie de 15,000 actions.

Quant au matériel existant il a été acheté à part pour la somme de £10,000 de sorte que le jour où la Société a été constituée, il est sorti plus de 46,000 livres sur £100,000 constituant son capital. Sur ces £46,000 il y a £10,000 de matériel et £36,000 de bénéfices aux vendeurs.

Il n'a pas été créé de parts de fondateur. Commercial, Industrial and Land Company of Egypt.

Il est dit dans le prospectus "que la Compagnie vendueuse s'est donné beaucoup de mal et de grandes dépenses pour obtenir les options qu'elle vend, toutefois, elle ne demande 'aucune rémunération pour ses peines et débours et, en conséquence, fixe son prix de vente à £14,000."

ci. £14,000 plus pour les dépenses préliminaires £ 9,000 pour syndicat de garantie £ 4,000

an total £27,000

Il a été créé 5,000 parts de fondateur d'une valeur nominale de £1 chacune que la Société vendueuse s'est aussi, intégralement allouée. Anglo-Belgian Company of Egypt, Limited.

Dépenses préliminaires £14,500 syndicat de garantie 3 1/2%.

De plus les promoteurs ont constitué la "Contract Company" chargée de percevoir des courtages, commissions et autres bénéfices directs et indirects sur toutes les affaires de l'Anglo-Belgian Company.

La Contract Company a un capital de £10,000. Or, la première affaire qu'elle a conclue avec l'Anglo-Belgian a été l'achat du Chemin de fer du Fayoum qui lui a rapporté un bénéfice de £18,000 soit près du double de son capital.

Comme on le voit, la profession de "Compteur promoteur" est dès plus lucrative en Angleterre et les promoteurs égyptiens ne perdront rien s'ils sont obligés d'aller constituer sous le régime anglais les Sociétés repoussées par le gouvernement Egyptien.

Après l'exposé de notre confrère il ne nous reste rien à ajouter, nous ne pouvons qu'être de son avis.

La part de fondateur est la presque garantie de l'avoir d'une société; du reste, comme il est dit plus haut, du jour où le gouvernement se mêlerait un peu trop de ce qui ne le regarde pas, il serait bien facile et peut-être plus avantageux pour les promoteurs de sociétés, de les constituer sous un autre régime.

Le contentieux de l'Etat voulut faire du zèle; or nous croyons que les Sociétés anonymes Egyptiennes offrent suffisamment de garanties avec leur constitution actuelle, et que le public aurait plus à perdre qu'à gagner, si on venait à changer, par de nouvelles lois, l'état de choses existant.

EDEN PALACE HOTEL, CAIRO.

NOTED FOR ITS EXCELLENT CUISINE.

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Special terms for officers of the Army of Occupation and Government Officials.

26/11/06

SYRIAN TRADE.

BEYROUT.

In his report on the trade and commerce of Beyrouth and the coast of Syria for 1905, Mr. Drummond-Hay, Consul-General, states that the returns of foreign shipping show that, although there was a decrease in the number of British ships, their tonnage was higher than the preceding year. This was mainly due to the fact that Messrs. Westcott's (Ellerman) line of steamers called less frequently at Beyrouth. British shipping on the Syrian coast was represented chiefly by the Prince Line and Bell's Asia Minor Steamship Company. The bulk of British goods from the United Kingdom was carried by the former, which also shared with the Deutsche Levante Linie and the Belgian line of steamers Adolf Deppe, in the transport of Belgian products, consisting chiefly of iron, including all iron materials for the Hedjaz and Aleppo railways. The latter's requirements will total about 40,000 tons before it is completed. There are besides 10,000 tons of rails and other articles being shipped for the new electric tramway at Damascus, a part of which has already been landed at Beyrouth.

A new German line of steamers, the Atlas of Bremen, will, it is expected, open a monthly service on the Syrian coast. This will bring about a keen competition between the different lines, to the advantage probably of ship-owners.

For the outward return voyages, British vessels had a decided advantage owing to the large quantity of barley shipped from the Syrian coast to the United Kingdom. The export returns for 1905 show that about 15,000 tons of barley were taken from this port alone, and there is every probability that this amount will be nearly doubled during 1906. In anticipation of this large demand the rolling-stock of the existing railway lines, Beyrouth-Damascus-Hauran and Rayak-Homs-Hama, has been increased to meet the grain trade. The company is even considering the adoption of the original project of a broad-gauge line to supplement the present tramway, which crosses the Lebanon Range over very steep gradients. It is not, however, likely that this scheme will be carried out in the near future, as the inevitable construction of a long tunnel under Kanesy would necessitate a large outlay, for which the railway company is not prepared.

The Hedjaz Railway, which has now laid nearly 650 kiloms. of rails out of the 1,800 kiloms. required to reach Mecca (excluding the branch line to Haifa), will in future have all shipments of their goods landed at Haifa. This change will be followed by a considerable decrease in 1906 in the imports of rails, and coal contracts have already been signed by the Hedjaz Railroad Commission for 15,000 tons of Cardiff coal to be discharged at Haifa during 1906.

It is now a much-debated question whether this new railroad, having its terminus at the port of Haifa, will injure the trade of Beyrouth, and many fear that the unsatisfactory state of the Custom House administration at Beyrouth, combined with the heavy dues of the port company and the inability of the Beyrouth-Hama-Aleppo Line to meet the demands of trade in their traffic will, unless remedied, be most prejudicial to the interests of Beyrouth.

Il n'a pas été créé de parts de fondateur. Commercial, Industrial and Land Company of Egypt.

Il est dit dans le prospectus "que la Compagnie vendueuse s'est donné beaucoup de mal et de grandes dépenses pour obtenir les options qu'elle vend, toutefois, elle ne demande 'aucune rémunération pour ses peines et débours et, en conséquence, fixe son prix de vente à £14,000."

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There was a rise in the imports of about £10,000 as compared with the preceding year, British articles alone showing an increase of £80,000. This was mainly due to Manchester goods, which maintain the pre-ponderance of British trade.

HAIFA AND ACRE.

Mr. Acting Vice-Consul P. Abel reports as follows:—The returns of the import trade of Haifa and Acre for 1905 do not differ much from the preceding year; but those of the export trade are very high owing to an exceptionally fine harvest and to the fact that prices for cereals were favourable in Europe.

The railway from Haifa to Damascus will make many openings for British manufacturers. The principal articles that would find a market in this district are oil-engines for working flour-mills and for irrigation purposes, hardware, ironmongery and agricultural machinery.

Application for contracts to supply the railway with coal and other materials should be made to the headquarters of the Hedjaz Railway at Constantinople.

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DELEGATION MUNICIPALE

TRIBUNAUX MIXTES

(Communication Officielle)

La Délégation Municipale s'est réunie le 29 mai 1906 à 5 h. p.m. sous la présidence de Mr. Dr. Schies Pacha.

Présents MM. Ahmed Pacha Yehia, Mansour Bey Youssef, Soliman Bey Abani, Dr. G. Vallenin, G. Zervudachi, membres W.P. Chataway, Administrateur, S. Sady Bey, Secrétaire.

La Délégation décide de réservé le lot No 21 à l'Ibrahimieh pour y établir un poste pour le service des pompiers et proposera à la Commission l'ouverture d'un crédit de L.E. 100 pour la construction d'un kiosque qui y sera érigé à cet effet.

Elle autorise une dépense de L.E. 100 pour la réparation de la pompe à vapeur automobile.

De l'avis conforme du Comité des Plantations, un crédit de L.E. 1000 est accordé pour l'achat de plantes et boutures destinées aux parcs ; un reverberé à 4 branches sera installé dans le nouveau parc de la rue d'Allemagne.

La Délégation autorise l'empierrement en chafk d'une partie de la rue "Joseph Hakim," à la condition que la propriétaire consente à participer à la dépense pour moitié.

Elle demande aux services un devis pour la construction d'une route en chafk conduisant aux bains de M. Polakoff à l'Ibrahimieh.

Une dépense de L.E. 23 pour l'asphaltage des écuries de Fleming est autorisée.

La Délégation adjuge à Mr. Ramadan Joussef sa prié de L.E. 300 les travaux de construction d'un chalet de nécessité à la rue Ibn Toulin ; à Mr. Dibari, au prix de L.E. 598, les travaux de construction d'un mur de soutènement et de dallage de la rue Bahari Bey. et à Mr. Moscatelli, les travaux de dallage de la rue Haidawi.

Elle renvoie à l'examen des services une plainte de divers résidents et propriétaires de Mohareen Bey au sujet d'un projet prévu aux autorités sanitaires tendant à la construction d'un hôpital consacré au malades contagieuses dans le voisinage de leur quartier.

La Délégation autorise une dépense de L.E. 62 environ pour acheter les travaux d'empierrement en caillasse de la rue Victoria à Ram lab.

Sur la proposition du Comité du Musée, la Délégation décide d'écrire une lettre à S.E. le ministre de l'Intérieur pour le prier de vouloir bien intervenir auprès du ministre de la guerre à l'effet d'obtenir la démolition du fort placé sur la colline Est de la catacombe de Comel Chogafa, en vue d'y pratiquer des fouilles, fort qui avait été déjà mis à la disposition du Musée pour les besoins du service.

La séance est levée à 8 h. p.m.

ASSOCIATION DU COMMERCE D'IMPORTATION.

Dimanche matin à 10 h a eu lieu l'assemblée générale de l'Association du Commerce d'Importation.

Communication a été donnée du rapport sur les travaux de l'exercice écoulé.

Dans ce rapport, le Comité s'est préoccupé de certains abus auquel donne lieu le régime actuel de la livraison des marchandises expédiées par Chemin de fer. L'Administration se contente pour la livraison des marchandises de la remise pure et simple du récépissé sans exiger aucune signature.

Il arrive que des destinataires de mauvaise foi n'ont pas reçu la marchandise alors même que le récépissé leur avait été envoyé par lettre recommandée.

Le Chemin de Fer dans ce cas peut bien prouver la livraison, mais il ne peut établir à qui il a livré.

L'attention du Comité a été également attirée sur les dates inscrites sur le récépissé.

Le chemin de fer inscrit sur le récépissé la date du jour où le récépissé a été émis après paiement du transport. Cette date est quelquefois postérieure d'un jour ou deux à la véritable date d'expédition et en résulte que le destinataire prenant la date du récépissé pour celle de l'expédition, est amené à se tromper sur le jour probable d'arrivée et paie quelquefois le magasinage auquel il ne s'attendait pas.

Des observations sont aussi parvenues au Comité au sujet du tarif de magasinage du chemin de fer au Gabbari et au Caire pour marchandises retirées en retard, tarif qui représente pour certains colis légers tous que certaines caisses de sucre, d'amidon, etc., une charge très lourde.

Pour ce qui concerne les ponts sur le canal Mahmoudieh, un décret du Comité s'est occupé de cette question comme membre d'une commission chargée d'étudier l'augmentation des ponts sur le Canal.

Cette Commission réunissait des représentants des Administrations intéressées ainsi qu'un représentant du Commerce d'Exportation.

En raison du développement du trafic, les ponts existants étaient devenus insuffisants, leur augmentation est absolument nécessaire, et la Commission préconise a proposé la construction de deux nouveaux ponts et le remplacement du pont Ibrahim par un pont plus large. Les ministères compétents ont du reste déjà approuvé en principe ces propositions et il est probable qu'on passera à l'exécution, lorsque les administrations compétentes se seront mises d'accord quant aux contributions à la dépense.

BECK & CO'S PILSENER BEER BREMEN.

FEARS NO HONEST COMPETITION FOR QUALITY

N.B. — Inferior Brands now being offered to

Managers of certain good circles.

Beware of evilly disposed competition unning down this very

SUPERIOR BRAND OF BEER.

SUPPLEMENT COMMERCIAL ET FINANCIER

DE L'EGYPTIAN GAZETTE

L'EGYPTIAN GAZET

